

**Applicants hereby amend the paragraph on page 1, beginning on line 7 of the specification as follows:**

Many digital integrated circuits have been ~~been~~ were fabricated in CMOS technology with 5-volt supply voltage. This has led to a large number of systems with a 5-volt supply on the printed circuit boards. However, as CMOS technology has developed the maximum allowable supply voltage of the digital IC's has dropped to 3.3-volts for 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  and 0.35  $\mu\text{m}$  technologies. In addition, it is expected that this voltage will be further reduced as newer technologies are developed. Since IC manufacturers want to use modern CMOS processes for cost reduction, a supply voltage compatibility problem results.

**Applicants hereby amend the paragraph on page 4, beginning on line 12 of the specification as follows:**

FIG. 1 is a block diagram illustration of a two-stage amplifier that includes a charge pump;  
and

**Applicants hereby amend the paragraph on page 8, beginning on line 15 and continuing on page 9 of the specification as follows:**

Referring to FIG. 2, the currents  $i_{s1}$ ,  $i_{s2}$  for charging or discharging the parasitic capacitances  $C_{m1}$ ,  $C_{m2}$  do not come from the first stage 2 through the terminal 25, but rather from the pump generator 8. The charge and discharge over the entire voltage excursion  $U_r$ , which is usual for pump circuits, takes place only at the parasitic capacitances  $C_{m1}$ ,  $C_{m2}$ . In contrast, the voltages across the pump capacitors  $C_1$ ,  $C_2$  and the coupling capacitor  $C_p$  are essentially constant or at most are changed only slightly. As already mentioned, direct current can not flow through the terminals 25, 26 to ground. The charge and discharge current for the parasitic capacitances  $C_{m1}$ ,  $C_{m2}$  is furnished through a branched-off portion  $i_{s1}$ ,  $i_{s2}$ , respectively, of the original pump currents  $i_{35}$ ,  $i_{36}$ , which, in the final analysis, are fed from the reference voltage 10 via the supply voltage of the inverters 25, 26. The other portions of the original pump currents  $i_{35}$ ,  $i_{36}$  form the first or second pump currents  $i_{p1}$ ,  $i_{p2}$  at the output of the charge pump 4.